hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER 147059633 US, in an envelope addressed MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Signature:

#29/I 3/16/04, pc

Docket No.: HO-P01506US2 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Rodney H. Masters et al.

Dated: January 16, 2004

Application No.: 09/481,153

Filed: January 12, 2000

For: SYSTEM FOR SECURING COMPOSITE **GRATINGS TO STRUCTURAL MEMBERS**

Examiner: W. S. Yip

Art Unit: 3637

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RECEIVED JAN 2 3 2004 **GROUP 3600**

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated October 22, 2003, please amend the aboveidentified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.